



California Highway Patrol Officer

Is This Career for You?



Here are a few questions all applicants should ask themselves before applying to become a CHP Cadet. If any of the questions make you feel uncomfortable, or you answer in the negative, you may not be ready to go through our thorough and intense testing, evaluation, and training process. Our goal is for those who are suited to the profession of CHP Officer to succeed, and to not set up for failure those who are not suited to the profession.

1. Are you willing to work in a para-military organization, operating under a structured chain-of-command?
2. Are you willing to wear a standardized uniform?
3. Do you have the patience, tenacity, and maturity to go through the multi-step testing and evaluation process that can take 12 months or more to complete?
4. Are you willing to attend a live-in, fast-paced, high-stress, intense law enforcement training academy for a period of six months in West Sacramento, CA?
5. Do you believe you are physically fit to the point that you can succeed in the physical training required at a law enforcement training academy?
6. Are you willing to drive or travel long distances within the state to accomplish the duties of the job?
7. Are you willing to work any work shift, on weekends, and on holidays?
8. Are you willing to work longer than your regular work shift or schedule?
9. Do you and your family understand the demands of a cadet and an officer?
10. Are you willing to work during a natural disaster?
11. Are you willing to operate a motor vehicle at high speeds under dangerous conditions?
12. Are you willing to use legal physical force to subdue a subject, so as to protect the public and yourself?
13. Are you willing to use a handgun, rifle, or other lethal force to protect the public, other police officers, and yourself?
14. Are you willing and able to remain calm, professional, and effective, when someone is rude, drunk, irrational, confused, obscene, or otherwise discourteous to you?